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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/944,296	08/30/2001	Ranjan Prasad	50325-0555	1897

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EXAMINER
COBY, FRANTZ

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2171	2

DATE MAILED: 05/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.		**Applicant(s)**
Office Action Summary	09/944,296		PRASAD ET AL.
	Examiner		**Art Unit**
	Frantz Coby		2171

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>30 August 2001</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-37</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-37</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some *   c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

This is in response to application filed on August 30, 2001 in which claims 1-37 are

presented for examination.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-37 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Johnson et al. US 2002/0152210 A1.

As per claim1, Johnson et al. disclose "a method for configuring access to a

plurality of data repositories, the data repositories each providing a plurality of data

objects, the method comprising receiving a request to access data objects stored in the

plurality of data repositories, the request including a parameter; retrieving metadata that

characterizes at least a portion of the plurality of data objects in each data repository;

and signaling a selection for one or more data objects from the plurality of data

repositories based on the parameter in the request and the metadata" as a system for

providing access to a plurality of disparate content repositories comprising a client

application program interface (API) that is configured to generate a user request to

access content and metadata properties in a plurality of content repositories having a

plurality of proprietary program interfaces, a plurality of bridges that translate the user

request into a format understandable by the proprietary program interfaces of the

plurality of content repositories and a view services component that processes and

converts results content from the plurality of content repositories into a format

understandable by said client API. The system further includes an access services

component that relays the user request from said client API to said plurality of bridges,

and an exchange services server that enables import and export of content and

metadata properties in the plurality of content repositories in an XML format (See

Johnson et al. Abstract; Figure 2 and corresponding text).

As per claims 2-16, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the

rejection of claim 1 as summarized above In addition to the inherent features of claims

2-16.

As per claim 17, Johnson et al. disclose "a computer system coupleable to an

application and to a plurality of data repositories, the application signaling the computer

system a request to access a plurality of data objects from the plurality of data

repositories, the computer system comprising a storage medium that stores at least a

first metadata structure, the first metadata structure characterizing multiple data objects

in each data repository; and a processing resource that is configured to use the first

metadata structure to select one or more data objects from the plurality of data

repositories in response to an application request to access data objects from a data

repository" as a system for providing access to a plurality of disparate content

repositories comprising a client application program interface (API) that is configured to

generate a user request to access content and metadata properties in a plurality of

content repositories having a plurality of proprietary program interfaces, a plurality of

bridges that translate the user request into a format understandable by the proprietary

program interfaces of the plurality of content repositories and a view services

component that processes and converts results content from the plurality of content

repositories into a format understandable by said client API. The system further includes

an access services component that relays the user request from said client API to said

plurality of bridges, and an exchange services server that enables import and export of

content and metadata properties in the plurality of content repositories in an XML format

(See Johnson et al. Abstract; Figure 2 and corresponding text).

As per claims 18-29, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in

the rejection of claim 17 as summarized above In addition to the inherent features of

claims 18-29.

As per claim 30, Johnson et al. disclose "a computer-readable medium carrying

sequences of instructions for configuring access to a plurality of data repositories that

provide a plurality of data objects, the sequences of instructions including instructions

for performing the steps of: receiving a request to access data objects stored in the

plurality of data repositories, the request including a parameter; retrieving metadata that

characterizes at least a portion of the plurality of data objects in each data repository;

and signaling a selection for one or more data objects from the plurality of data

repositories using the parameter in the request and the metadata" as a system for

providing access to a plurality of disparate content repositories comprising a client

application program interface (API) that is configured to generate a user request to

access content and metadata properties in a plurality of content repositories having a

plurality of proprietary program interfaces, a plurality of bridges that translate the user

request into a format understandable by the proprietary program interfaces of the

plurality of content repositories and a view services component that processes and

converts results content from the plurality of content repositories into a format

understandable by said client API. The system further includes an access services

component that relays the user request from said client API to said plurality of bridges,

and an exchange services server that enables import and export of content and

metadata properties in the plurality of content repositories in an XML format (See

Johnson et al. Abstract; Figure 2 and corresponding text).

As per claims 31-36, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the

rejection of claim 30 as summarized above In addition to the inherent features of claims

31-36.

As per claim 37, Johnson et al. disclose "a computer system for configuring

access to a plurality of data repositories that provide a plurality of data objects, the

computer system comprising: means for receiving a request to access data objects

stored in the plurality of data repositories, the request including a parameter; means for

retrieving metadata that characterizes at least a portion of the plurality of data objects in

each data repository; and means for signaling a selection for one or more data objects

from the plurality of data repositories using the parameter in the request and the

metadata" as a system for providing access to a plurality of disparate content

repositories comprising a client application program interface (API) that is configured to

generate a user request to access content and metadata properties in a plurality of

content repositories having a plurality of proprietary program interfaces, a plurality of

bridges that translate the user request into a format understandable by the proprietary

program interfaces of the plurality of content repositories and a view services

component that processes and converts results content from the plurality of content

repositories into a format understandable by said client API. The system further includes

an access services component that relays the user request from said client API to said

plurality of bridges, and an exchange services server that enables import and export of

content and metadata properties in the plurality of content repositories in an XML format

(See Johnson et al. Abstract; Figure 2 and corresponding text).

Claims 1-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Hurwood et al. U.S. Patent no. 6,697,808.

As per claim1, Hurwood et al. disclose "a method for configuring access to a

plurality of data repositories, the data repositories each providing a plurality of data

objects, the method comprising receiving a request to access data objects stored in the

plurality of data repositories, the request including a parameter; retrieving metadata that

characterizes at least a portion of the plurality of data objects in each data repository;

and signaling a selection for one or more data objects from the plurality of data

repositories based on the parameter in the request and the metadata" by providing

Methods and systems for use in searching a metadata repository used to store

metadata objects relating to data stored in a storage device of a decision support

system. In embodiments of the invention, a search object is submitted to an object

server by a requestor. The object server may search itself for objects meeting the

search criteria. If unsuccessful, the search object may be sent to a metadata server,

which, uses a metadata search engine to search the metadata repository; then, the

results of the search may be returned to the requestor by the object server (See

Hurwood et al. Figure 1 and corresponding text; Col. Col. 1, line 32-Col. 2, line 28).

As per claims 2-16, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claim 1 as summarized above In addition to the inherent features of claims 2-16.

As per claim 17, Hurwood et al. disclose "a computer system coupleable to an application and to a plurality of data repositories, the application signaling the computer system a request to access a plurality of data objects from the plurality of data repositories, the computer system comprising a storage medium that stores at least a first metadata structure, the first metadata structure characterizing multiple data objects in each data repository; and a processing resource that is configured to use the first metadata structure to select one or more data objects from the plurality of data repositories in response to an application request to access data objects from a data repository" by providing Methods and systems for use in searching a metadata repository used to store metadata objects relating to data stored in a storage device of a decision support system. In embodiments of the invention, a search object is submitted to an object server by a requestor. The object server may search itself for objects meeting the search criteria. If unsuccessful, the search object may be sent to a metadata server, which, uses a metadata search engine to search the metadata repository; then, the results of the search may be returned to the requestor by the object server (See Hurwood et al. Figure 1 and corresponding text; Col. Col. 1, line 32-Col. 2, line 28).

As per claims 18-29, most of the limitations of these claims have been

noted in the rejection of claim 17 as summarized above In addition to the inherent

features of claims 18-29.

As per claim 30, Hurwood et al. disclose "a computer-readable medium carrying

sequences of instructions for configuring access to a plurality of data repositories that

provide a plurality of data objects, the sequences of instructions including instructions

for performing the steps of: receiving a request to access data objects stored in the

plurality of data repositories, the request including a parameter; retrieving metadata that

characterizes at least a portion of the plurality of data objects in each data repository;

and signaling a selection for one or more data objects from the plurality of data

repositories using the parameter in the request and the metadata" by providing Methods

and systems for use in searching a metadata repository used to store metadata objects

relating to data stored in a storage device of a decision support system. In embodiments

of the invention, a search object is submitted to an object server by a requestor. The

object server may search itself for objects meeting the search criteria. If unsuccessful,

the search object may be sent to a metadata server, which uses a metadata search

engine to search the metadata repository; then, the results of the search may be

returned to the requestor by the object server (See Hurwood et al. Figure 1 and

corresponding text; Col. Col. 1, line 32-Col. 2, line 28).

As per claims 31-36, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in

the rejection of claim 30 as summarized above In addition to the inherent features of

claims 31-36.

As per claim 37, Hurwood et al. disclose "a computer system for configuring

access to a plurality of data repositories that provide a plurality of data objects, the

computer system comprising: means for receiving a request to access data objects

stored in the plurality of data repositories, the request including a parameter; means for

retrieving metadata that characterizes at least a portion of the plurality of data objects in

each data repository; and means for signaling a selection for one or more data objects

from the plurality of data repositories using the parameter in the request and the

metadata" by providing Methods and systems for use in searching a metadata

repository used to store metadata objects relating to data stored in a storage device of a

decision support system. In embodiments of the invention, a search object is submitted

to an object server by a requestor. The object server may search itself for objects

meeting the search criteria. If unsuccessful, the search object may be sent to a

metadata server, which, uses a metadata search engine to search the metadata

repository; then, the results of the search may be returned to the requestor by the object

server (See Hurwood et al. Figure 1 and corresponding text; Col. Col. 1, line 32-Col. 2,

line 28).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frantz Coby whose telephone number is 703 305-4006. The examiner can normally be reached on Maxi-Flex (Monday-Saturday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on 703 308-1436. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Frantz Coby
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2171

May 1, 2004